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## DOH-CITRUS RECOGNIZES THE NEW CHURCH WITHOUT WALLS FOR TOBACCO FREE POLICY

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**Lecanto, Fla.** — With help from the Tobacco Free Partnership at the Florida Department of Health in Citrus County (DOH-Citrus) and Tobacco Free Florida, The New Church Without Walls, 300 S. Kensington Ave. in Lecanto, passed a 100 percent Tobacco Free Grounds Policy earlier this year.

The policy prohibits the use of all tobacco products on company grounds. Signs bearing the message, “Tobacco Free Zone: No Smoking, Dipping, or Vaping” will be posted outside in parking lots and vehicle display areas.

“Tobacco takes a huge toll on our communities, including our businesses and organizations,” says Sandrew Wright II, Tobacco Program Health Educator with DOH-Citrus. “Having a written tobacco free worksite policy in place not only encourages employees and visitors to quit smoking, but it also protects their health and wellbeing,” says Wright.

Teresa “Lady T” Alexander, President of the New Church Without Walls, says she is “not a fan of smoking of any kind, including electronic cigarettes, so this was a no-brainer for us.”

Florida state law prohibits smoking inside enclosed workplaces, but employers can extend smoking bans to the surrounding areas of an office building to protect employees and visitors from the deadly effects of secondhand smoke and encourage smokers to quit.

Residents and businesses in Citrus County can access Tobacco Free Florida’s free tools and services by visiting <http://tobaccofreeflorida.com/county/citrus/>.

For more information about DOH-Citrus, go to [www.CitrusCountyHealth.org](http://www.CitrusCountyHealth.org) or follow us on Twitter at [@FLHealthCitrus](https://twitter.com/FLHealthCitrus).

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